



**City of Kingston  
Conservation Advisory Council  
420 Broadway  
Kingston, NY 12401  
(845) 331-1682 x. 7339**

Meeting Minutes  
February 9, 2011 6:30 PM

**In Attendance:**

Julie Noble  
Judith Denning  
Sophie Delamore  
Valeria Gheorghiu  
Elizabeth Higgins  
Gregg Swanzey  
Casey Schwarz (new member)

Meeting called to order 6:35 PM

**Agenda Modifications:**

Room Issue: Human Rights Commission meets at the same time as the CAC, has more members, and needs conference room 1 (where the CAC currently meets). Committee discussed options (change room, change time, change both). The most preferred option was the first Thursday at 6:30 PM. Liz made a motion to accept, Judith seconded, passed unanimously. Julie will see if that time and room is available.

Voting Issue: Some voting was done by e-mail during Julie's maternity leave. It was decided that in the future all voting needs to take place at meetings because it's better for transparency.

**Welcome, Guests and Public Comments**

(none)

**Approval of Minutes**

There were minor changes to the October, November, December and January minutes. Gregg moved to accept the minutes as amended, Liz seconded the motion and the motion to accept the minutes as amended passed unanimously.

**Election: Secretary and Vice Chair**

Julie would like to suggest that there be a Vice Chair position. Although there was some agreement that it would be good to have a Vice Chair both as a way of transitioning leadership and to have someone to help support the program in the absence of the Chair (maternity leave as an example). However, it was decided that because we don't currently have that position, we should amend our bylaws to outline the duties of this position prior to electing a Vice Chair.

Felipa had said she would continue to serve as secretary. Julie nominated her, Gregg seconded, there were no other nominations, passed unanimously.

## **Old Business**

New member appointments and CAC reappointments: Julie nominated Casey Schwarz to serve on the Advisory Council. Judith seconded, passed unanimously.

Climate Pledge: The climate analyst position had five applicants. The goal is to have the person start March 1st. Steve Noble will be the supervisor.

It will cost \$600 for the CAC to join ICLEI, which provides tools and databases that would be of great use to the climate analyst. Liz suggested that the CAC write a small grant for this. Gregg suggested the Community Catalyst Fund might be a good place to apply.

Climate Pledge Sub-Committee Reports:

- Recycling and Solid Waste - no news
- Energy - no news
- Green innovation - no news
- Land use - working on rail trail in Kingston, mapping undeveloped parcels. Guy Kempe is looking at vacant buildings for options for reuse.
- Green infrastructure - meeting with Clearwater

Bard Posters for Climate Pledge: students have completed posters.

Jennifer Schwartz would like to recapture momentum of Green Jobs/Climate Smart with a public event. There was some concern by the Council that more information was needed about what this would entail and accomplish before support. Suggestion was made to wait until climate analyst was on board.

Website/Social Media Update: no changes/updates to report

Showing of Carbon Nation: The CAC was invited to have a display table at a showing of Carbon Nation at the Kingston Library. Other groups were invited. A date has not been set for this event.

## **New Business**

Natural Resource Inventory: the CAC needs a natural resource map to help guide recommendations to Kingston. Valeria, Gregg and Liz will work on this.

Proxy Voting: Julie again raised concerns about votes that take place outside of announced meetings. Valeria offered to provide the CAC with language on proxy voting for review.

Annual Report: The CAC needs to provide an annual report to the Council. Julie is working on this. Please send in submissions for the report, particularly trainings, workshops and other continuing education for inclusion in the report.

## **Announcements/Communications**

1. Valeria went to an environmental legal education training
2. The state climate action plan comments closed on February 8<sup>th</sup>
3. The Kingston CAC won an award for our work on the Pledge

## **Liaison Meeting Reports**

CAC members have their assignments for Planning Board and Public Safety Meetings to attend in 2011.

**Adjournment:** Gregg made a motion to Adjourn, Liz seconded. Adjourned 8:47pm